

Amendments of the Claims:

A detailed listing of all claims in the application is presented below. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. All claims being currently amended are submitted with markings to indicate the changes that have been made relative to immediate prior version of the claims. The changes in any amended claim are being shown by strikethrough (for deleted matter) or underlined (for added matter).

1. (Original) A method for forming gear pitches on a gear blank, comprising:

providing a tap coupled to and acted upon by an actuator;

providing a plurality of blanks, wherein each blank has a surface for threading and each blank is free from actuation, other than forces exerted by the tap;

placing the blank surfaces facing each other for engagement with the tap;

actuating the tap upon the blank surfaces; and

forming threads on the blank surfaces.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising providing a holding member for passively holding the blanks.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising providing coolant to the blanks.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the blank surface surface of each blank is a partial-turn surface.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein the partial-turn surface is a quarter-turn surface.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the set of blanks includes blanks being less than 360 degree turn blanks.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the set of blanks includes blanks being quarter-turn or 90 degree turn blanks.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the set of blanks comprises a set of two blanks.

9. (Cancelled).

10. (Cancelled)